



Corres. and Mail
BOX AF

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. MDS-020
(6219/6)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Costa et al. CONFIRMATION NO: 2198
SERIAL NO.: 09/738,612 GROUP NO.: 2863
FILING DATE: December 15, 2000 EXAMINER: Nghiem, Michael P.
TITLE: SYSTEM FOR NORMALIZING SPECTRA

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
ART UNIT 2863**

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

This paper is responsive to the final Office action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 5, 2004, for the above-identified patent application. Applicants respectfully request that the amendments and remarks that follow be considered and that the objections made in the Office action be withdrawn.

Applicants believe that no fee is currently due, but if any fee is due, the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

In response to the Office action of February 5, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.